

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 20, 1972

To the Men and Women of the Situation Room:

I want to express my gratitude for the exceptional support which you provided on my visit to the People's Republic of China.

Throughout that historic week, you were my vital communication link with the Government in Washington and with the rest of the world.

A special word of thanks is due the duty officers and communications assistants who handled the extraordinary volume of traffic which this trip involved. This flow of information kept me, the Secretary of State, and Dr. Kissinger fully supplied 24 hours a day with substantive support for our negotiations and with news of events at home and around the globe.

Your effort was an important contribution to this historic trip. I was not surprised by your superb performance, but I want you to know of my appreciation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard Nixon", with a stylized, flowing script.

Mr. David Y. McManis
The White House Situation Room
The White House